Ammonia Plants in South India

2532. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up Ammonia Plants in South India particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the site selected for this purpose; and

(c) by when such plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) to (c) No decision has been taken for setting up of ammonia plants in South India or in Andhra Pradesh, for the present.

Conditions for settingup of Mini steel Plants

2533. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the terms and conditions approved by Government for setting up of mini steel plants in the private sector in the country during the last three years, alongwith the installed capacity and capital investment on each such plant;

(b) what is the number of additional mini steel plants which Government propose to set up in different States, Statewise;

(c) whether Government propose to give any professional assistance for setting up of such mini steel plants in industrially backward States; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) Under the existing guidelines for licensing for steel issued vide Press Note No. 4 (1988 Series), mini steel plants can be set up with a capacity of 50,000 tonnes per annum in areas located in Jammun & Kashmir, the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh, North-Eastern States, Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh subject to a categorical assurance of power from the concerned State Governments. The earlier provisions existing during the last three years permitted the setting up of such plants as per the following criteria:—

(i) In the States where there was no or minimal licensed capacity for steel making.

(ii) New units based on the latest technological developments were permitted for a capacity ranging between 40,000 to 50,000 TPA.

(iii) Rerolling mills were permitted to set up captive steel-making units as a measure of backward integration.

No condition was laid down regarding investments for such plants.

(b) Government do not propose to set up any Mini Steel Plant.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Non-Depositing of Provident Fund dues by the Newspapers and News Agencies

2534. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the managements of newspapers/News Agencies being published from having their head offices in New Delhi which have not deposited the provident funds dues of their staff;

(b) what amount is due from them at present; and

(c) what are the dates from which these dues are not being deposited and up to what period slips were issued to the staff by Provident Fund Office?